made available to the Government of Delhi by appropriate measures". The decision to hand over the Super Bazar to the Government of Delhi involves consultation with various Government Departments. No decision has been taken as yet by the Government on this issue.

[English]

Welfare of SCs/STs/OBCs engaged in Toddy Tapping

3138. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes engaged in Toddy Tapping profession, State-wise;

(b) whether any welfare scheme for them has been formulated;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The information is not being maintained centrally.

(b) to (d) No separate scheme has been formulated by the Ministry of Welfare for this group of persons. However, the various welfare schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Welfare for SCs, STs and OBCs will be applicable in respect of these persons also. A separate Corporation has been constituted in Andhra Pradesh in the name of A.P. Parisharmika Sahakara Arthika Samkshema Samastha Ltd., (A.P.G.P) for the welfare of Toddy Tappers. The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) set up under the Ministry of Welfare has sanctioned 20 projects in favour of A.P.G.P., covering 1821 beneficiaries with NBCFDC's share amounting to Rs. 370.87 lakhs. NBCFDC has so far disbursed Rs. 247.72 lakhs to A.P.G.P covering 1276 beneficiaries. In the State of Kerala, a Board named Kerala State Welfare Fund Board has been constituted for providing financial assistance for the welfare of Toddy Tappers.

Technical Institutes for Handicapped

3139. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have given any assistance to set up a technical institute for the handicapped in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received a proposal to set up any such institute at Guntur in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the grants provided or likely to be provided for the same?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh that grant-in-aid may be given to the Government Residential School for Deaf in Guntur District at Bapatla with a view to upgrade the school to intermediate college level so as to prepare the Handicapped for availing job opportunities. It has also been stated that the State Government has no objection to hand over the School to Central Government for continuation and upgradation of the same.

Under various Schemes of grant-in-aid, currently being administered by the Ministry of Welfare for welfare of the Handicapped persons, there is no provision for giving grant-in-aid to or taking over of any Government institution. Therefore, it was not possible to consider the request of the State Government.

Eco Clubs

3140. SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Eco/Environment Clubs opened in some States for training on the environmental education, State-wise;

(b) the extent to which the targets set for such training have been achieved;

(c) the details of districts selected for "Paryavaran vahinis" in the country; and

(d) the norms, if any, laid for the determination of cadres of excellence for promotion of environment?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The State-wise details of Eco-Clubs set up during last three years are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) No physical targets have been set for achievements by the Eco-Clubs. However, these eco-clubs have been quite successful in educating school children about various environmental issues.

(c) So far, 195 districts have been selected for constitution of Paryavaran Vahinis in the country.